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Curios and Relics

China, Kitchenware, & Glassware

Commemorative Copper

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

"Now he belongs to the ages..."†

A Rare Opportunity for Collectors

Share in this Historic Event:

The Creation of the First Limited Edition

Commemorative Plate Ever Crafted in Pure Copper

NORMAN ROCKWELL'S

Incomparable Portrait of

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Executed in Dramatic Relief

by Noted American Sculptor Roger Brown.



River Shore Productions, Inc.

"Rockwell's Lincoln" is the first in a series of four handcrafted plates to be issued annually by River Shore Productions; it is the first ever issued in pure copper; each is individually numbered and certified.

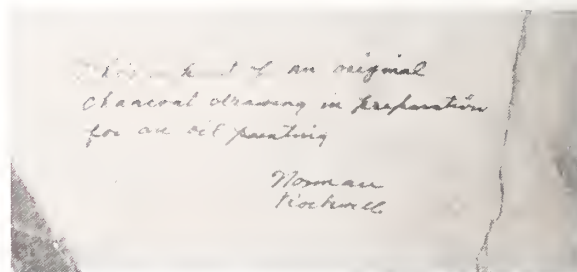
Edition limited to 9500 Price at issue—Forty Dollars.

† *Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton—spoken at the deathbed of President Abraham Lincoln.*

THE MISSING ROCKWELL LINCOLN



Norman Rockwell often has called Abraham Lincoln his favorite American. It is particularly fitting that River Shore Productions chose this year to celebrate one of Rockwell's most important artistic achievements by reproducing his head of Lincoln in dimensionally sculptured copper—the first limited edition plate of its type ever produced.



Expert Lauds this Achievement—Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, the pre-eminent Lincoln scholar, author, lecturer and Curator Emeritus of the Lincoln Life Foundation Museum, comments on “Rockwell’s Lincoln”: “Of the literally hundreds of Lincoln collectibles I have reviewed, this certainly ranks among the few of true artistic significance. As Rockwell captured the essence of Lincoln in the drawing, Brown has given him life in the third dimension. In my judgment, this is a work of museum quality. The private collector now enjoys the rare opportunity to acquire something of consequence and lasting merit.”



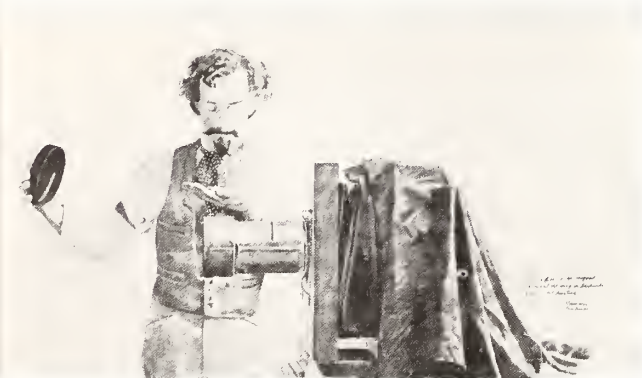
A detail from the lost Rockwell original four by ten foot charcoal drawing, the starting point for the Brown sculpture

NOW PRESERVED FOR POSTERITY

The choice of copper as the medium for this collection is particularly appropriate. Pure copper is a timeless material, resistant to the effects of the environment. It also has the ability to preserve minute detail. Its natural warmth has been enhanced by careful burnishing to create an elegant patina. That glow has been preserved so that the luster will not be diminished by time.

Norman Rockwell's famous signature is silent testimony to the importance of this first edition: the first and only collector's plate in the world of pure copper. Roger Brown's own name is inscribed in the corner of the likeness of America's Sixteenth President who, more than any other man, "symbolizes the true spirit of America," according to Dr. McMurtry.

A tribute to one of America's greatest men from her foremost artist.



The Entire Remnant of the Original by Rockwell.

Rockwell scholar Richard Spiegel has verified that this 24" by 82" fragment is part of a 48" by 120" work, actually sketched on brown wrapping paper. The sketch probably was given to a neighbor who, unable to display it in his home because of its size, did the next best thing: he tacked it to the inside wall of his barn. Only when the barn was being wrecked years later was the work re-discovered. By that time much of it was lost, probably rubbed away by cattle as they moved

within the barn. Fortunately, none of the principal subject matter was within the lost area, or this important Rockwell might have been irreclaimable.

The work shows pioneer photographer Mathew Brady taking one of his finest photographs of the immortal president. As was customary because films of the day had slow exposure speeds, a clamp held Lincoln's head in position. The actual photograph was made in the Brady studio February 9, 1864.



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https://archive.org/details/curiosrelicschinlinc_11

Lincoln's deeply sculptured likeness is framed by the natural contours of this first limited edition plate in pure copper. Actual diameter, 8". Individually boxed with Certificate of Authenticity.



Lincoln's watch, original Whig Party election ticket, spectacles, inaugural hat and tintype from the collection of the Chicago Historical Society.

Lincoln

ROCKWELL'S LINCOLN

This is plate number 467
certified to be a first issue in the first collectors'
series ever crafted in pure copper. The original art by
Norman Rockwell was faithfully interpreted by the
noted sculptor Roger Brown in the year 1976.
Edition limited to exactly 9500.

Copyright 1976 RSP



CERTIFIED
R.R.
PURE COPPER

River Shore Productions

Answers to some questions you may have about Rockwell's Lincoln

What makes this an important collectors' plate?

As the first plate in the Famous Americans Series, no collection can be complete without it. Historically, first plates in a series enjoy the greatest demand and often command the highest prices after the edition is closed.

Rockwell's Lincoln has the further distinction of being the *first* collector's plate ever produced in pure copper. And, it is the *first* Rockwell plate subject to be crafted in relief.

Why was copper chosen for this plate?

It proved to be the ideal medium in which to capture not only the fine detail of the sculpture, but its *feeling* as well. Copper is one of the most durable of metals and its natural resistance to destructive oxidation provides a permanence appropriate to a work of the importance of Rockwell's Lincoln.

How is the edition limited?

No more than 9500 plates will ever be made. Once that number is reached, the dies will be destroyed, making duplication impossible.

Will subsequent issues be crafted in copper?

Yes. All four of the River Shore Famous American Series plates will be of the same pure material and, like the first, be strictly limited editions.

How can I be assured of paying no more than issue price for this plate?

Your best assurance is to make your decision as soon as possible. Authorized dealers have agreed not to sell this plate above issue price in their initial offering. However, once their limited allocations are exhausted it would be necessary for you to acquire a plate from another collector. As you know, that generally means a substantially higher price.



Sculptor Roger Brown is shown here at work on the second plate in River Shore's Famous Americans Series: "Rockwell by Rockwell" after the impressive and popular "triple portrait" painted in 1960.

Brown's considerable credits derive from his "incredibly accurate and sensitive touch" according to one major critic. His commissions include works for the Lyndon Baines Johnson Memorial Library and the Aviation Hall of Fame as well as many other institutional private collections.

Second plate "Rockwell by Rockwell" available fall 1977.



to: **Lincoln Memorial University** Harrogate, Tennessee 37752

YES, I want to add *Rockwell's Lincoln*, the first collector's plate in pure copper, to my collection. I understand that this edition is strictly limited to no more than 9500 plates and that the price at issue is forty dollars. This is the first plate in River Shore's Famous Americans Series.

Please send me _____ (limit, two) numbered issues from the limited edition of *Rockwell's Lincoln*. I am enclosing a check for \$ _____ (\$40.00 plus \$1.50 shipping per plate) made out to Lincoln Memorial University or, please charge my ☐ BankAmericard ☐ Master Charge account, my account number (and my bank number for Master Charge) are shown below.

I understand your standard thirty-day privilege applies to this offering to guarantee my satisfaction.

Name _____

Address _____

City & State _____ Zip _____

card number _____ expires _____

Master Charge bank number _____ (the four numbers above your name)



**The
"Lost Rockwell"
Abraham Lincoln
Plate**

Copyright 1976, River Shore Production, Inc.

retain this stub

**ROCKWELL'S
LINCOLN**

ordered from



River Shore Productions, Inc.

date _____

amount _____

check no. _____

☐ Mastercharge

☐ BankAmericard

Lincoln Memorial University

Harrogate, Tennessee 37752

Dear Lincoln Collector:

You have, quite literally, a unique opportunity ~~at your fingertips~~: the chance to acquire a rare and important Rockwell in a new medium - pure copper - and the first plate in an important new series.

*Please see page two **

As a connoisseur of the work of America's best-loved artist, you will, I know, be impressed with the subject and style as much as the means by which it was achieved.

Even a casual glance at the enclosed brochure will tell you that originality is not the plate's only virtue. Artistically it must be ranked among the best Rockwells ever done. His genius for capturing the very essence of his subject, not merely a likeness, is particularly evident in this work. Its special vitality reflects the extra effort Rockwell lavished on the portrait of Lincoln, whom he calls "my favorite American." Noted sculptor Roger Brown's faithful interpretation adds the life of the third dimension. As Lincoln authority Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry said, "You can almost 'feel' the presence of this great man. Indeed, you can.

Not the least of the plate's charm and interest stem from the incredible circumstances surrounding the rediscovery of the lost original Rockwell drawing, and how it was saved from obscurity and certain destruction.

For two decades Rockwell's "Lincoln at the Studio of Mathew Brady" was lost to collectors. Indeed, not even the artist had a clue to its whereabouts. Perseverance and luck finally ended the search - in an old cattle barn where the work had been uncere-
moniously tacked to the wall. Its bottom edge had been worn away and its surface showed the ravages of years of neglect. Fortunately, experts determined that it could be saved. Diligence and dexterity allowed its restoration and then it was carefully rolled and hand-carried to Stockbridge for authentication by Norman Rockwell.

*Plate #1 is now in the Chicago Historical Society's
famous Lincoln Collection.*

Now, aside from the original which is in a private collection, these few copper plates are the only permanent record of an historically significant work by America's favorite artist.

The edition's modest size makes it one of the rarest Rockwells ever offered to collectors. The coming years can only serve to enhance its desirability and, thus, its prospects for significant appreciation in value. The fact

that this plate is the first issue in a new series contributes further to its potential performance on the secondary market.

* Earlier I mentioned that because "Rockwell's Lincoln" is the first collectors' plate ever made in pure copper, its value as a collectible is enhanced. Experts cite the success of other plates that were the first to use a unique material. One is the impressive appreciation of the first collectors' plate in crystal - the '65 Lalique - that soared from an issue price of \$25 to \$1750; and Franklin Mint's first silver plate - the '70 Rockwell Christmas - that quintupled in price in less than two years.

Please note { By virtually every standard by which a plate can be judged, "Rockwell's Lincoln" rates exceptionally high. Its impressive string of "firsts" coupled with the painstaking care with which each plate is individually hand finished make it an essential addition to any serious collection.

We respectfully suggest that the best way to avoid disappointment (or the expense of acquiring this important first edition at other than the issue price) is to act promptly. An order card is enclosed for your convenience.

Sincerely,



Arch W. Patterson

P.S. Because of the edition's small size, we feel compelled to limit to two the number of plates any individual collector may acquire. Our standard thirty-day return privilege applies to this offering, so you may order without undue hesitation and without any financial risk whatsoever.

April 1984

(right marginal stains to paper, one chip from lower corner of first page). First Edition. Wagner-Camp 376. Howes L 58. One of only 250 copies printed. Now Searce.

\$200

THE DISCOVERY OF YELLOWSTONE PARK.

151. LANGFORD, Nathaniel Pitt. MARY OF THE WASHBURN EXPEDITION TO THE YELLOWSTONE AND FURNISH RIVERS in the Year 1870. N.P.: privately printed, (1905). 8vo, pictorial cloth. PRESENTATION COPY from the Author. A Fine copy with an excellent association.

\$220

152. LAWRENCE, D. H. THE PLUMED SERPENT (Quetzaleoatl). London: Martin Secker, (1926). 8vo, brown cloth, dust jacket. First Edition (Roberts A33): "Lawrence considered the novel, then, his most important work." An exceptionally sharp copy.

\$350

THE FIRST CATALOGUE OF AMERICAN LITERARY 1ST EDITIONS

153. (CATALOGUE). LEON & BROTHER. CATALOGUE OF FIRST EDITIONS OF AMERICAN AUTHORS. New York: Leon & Brother, 1885. 8vo, disbound. First Appearance of this important catalogue, the first catalogue devoted to American Literary First Editions. Some sample entries of First Editions in this interesting catalogue include: Cooper's The Deerslayer \$1.75; Dana's Two Years before the Mast \$1.50; Hawthorne's Fanshawe \$12.50; Henry James's The Portrait of a Lady \$1.50; Melville's The Piazza Tales \$1.50; Poe's Tales \$7.50; Thoreau's Walden \$4.25; and Whitman's Leaves of Grass \$15. Stabholes, lacks wrappers.

\$175

154. LESSING, Doris. STORIES. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1978. 8vo, turquoise wrappers. ADVANCE UNCORRECTED PROOF of the First American Edition. Fine.

\$75

155. (LINCOLN, Abraham.) ORIGINAL COPPER ENGRAVED PLATE of Lincoln. With one artist's proof and one finished print. Plate 7 1/2" by 5 3/4" with rust spots. New York: J. O. Wright. d. A handsome profile of the President.

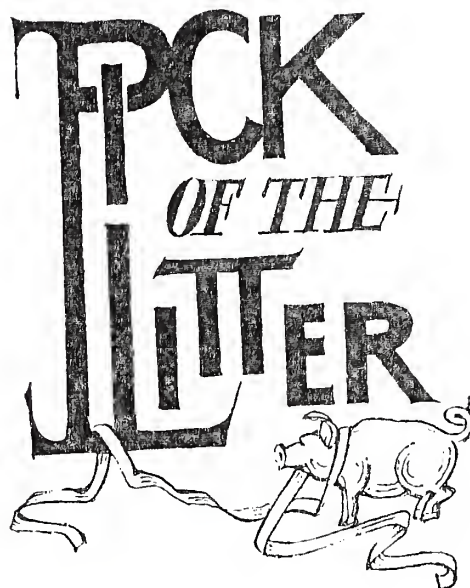
\$250

THE EARLIEST BIOGRAPHY OF LINCOLN

156. (LINCOLN.) THE LIFE, SPEECHES AND PUBLIC SERVICES OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN Together with a Sketch of the Life of Hannibal Hamlin. . . . New York: Rudd & Carleton, 1860. Small 8vo, pictorial wrappers, Quarter-moroceo slipcase. First Edition, "The Wigwam Edition" (Monaghan 92; Howes L-341; Sabin 4120). Unusually Fine.

\$450

157. (LOWELL, James Russell). THE BIGELOW PAPERS. Edited by Homer Wilbur. Cambridge: Published by George Nichols, 1848. 8vo, original blind and gilt-stamped brown cloth. First Edition, First Issue, binding A (BAL 13068; Grolier 100 American 57). Tipped to front is an ALS from Lowell, 8vo, 4 pages, on the stationery of "Legation of the United States/ London" dated 23rd Nov. 1880, to an unknown correspondent. Reads in part: "I will write to a friend in Madrid to enquire for such a book as you mention — but I have little



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